

# Breaking News

August 2007

Volume 1, Issue 8

## Special Interest Articles:

- New plays to see!
- One Act Play Festival Success



## *The Monthly Newsletter of the Break a Leg Theatre Group*

### “Is it Friday yet?”

Hi everyone,

Well it's been a busy month for Break a Leg, with several members working hard and attending One Act Play Festivals at various locations. Huge congratulations must go to Greg and his “Dust to Dust” team for their fantastic success at the recent Gemco Festival. It's great to know that we have such a bunch of talented and hard-working people in our midst. I'm sure you'll all enjoy reading their success story below.

Although we're more than halfway through the year, the pace doesn't look like settling down anytime soon.

Rehearsals have begun for a new Break a Leg Theatre Group production, to open in November, an impressive theatrical piece called “Someone Who'll Watch Over Me”. I am lucky enough to have been given the opportunity of directing this play, and it's such a thrill to be involved. Details on page 2 of this issue.

All of this means that our household is now in a constant state of movement. With Dan away two nights a week rehearsing for “Lucky Stiff”, me away one night a week, our kids are starting to forget the last time they saw us together!

Thank goodness for weekends, I say!

Hope you enjoy this issue.

- Mandy

## Gemco Festival of One Act Plays

The day was beautiful, and we loved having half a railway carriage as a dressing room. Not “Four Star”, but definitely atmospheric. And warm! The part of Morris Hasluck was played by Greg Durkin, filling in for Lawrie Fildes, who did such a fine job in Traralgon. Allie Durkin came along as well, as sound and lighting tech as well as “chair wrangler” (we had quite a lot of the beasts with us on the day).

We were unaware of a costume category, but Michelle's design certainly deserved recognition. It had a powerful effect on the definition of the late, lamented “Vera”. Helena Phillips, who played Vera, had a significant part to play in the overall concept, I should add, and contributed some nice “last minute” embellishments. In fact, over all, I would like to congratulate the entire cast, including those who did not receive official recognition, on a very fine job as well as a strong team effort. Thank you, everyone.

We have one more festival to go - Kyneton on the first or second of September. We'll let you know when we have a time allocated.

And the all important results:

**Krissi nominated for Best Lead Actress**

**Michelle winning for the costume design of “Vera's” costume**

**Bruce winning Best Support Actor (male...of course)**

**Michelle winning Best Support Actor (female)**

*Congratulations everyone!*

Break a Leg  
Theatre Group



We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.breakalegtheatre.com](http://www.breakalegtheatre.com)

Getting to know....

Annette O'Shea

**Name:** Annette Marie O'Shea

**Any Nicknames:** Annie and Ollie

**Happiest Moment Ever:** Giving birth to my twin girls and seeing their tiny little faces for the first time.

**First time ever on stage:** In a radio singing competition held at the local RSL when I was 10.

**Favourite thing to do when not on stage:** Hanging out with family and friends on the Surf Beach at Inverloch, catching huge waves on the Boogie Board.

**What book are you currently reading:** House of Echoes, by Barbara Erskine.

**How do you relax?** Sewing sequins onto dance costumes, believe it or not! Also, soaking in a hot bubble bath with a glass of red and a book.

**Most embarrassing moment:** There have been plenty. One of the worst was when I went to work wearing my dress inside out. It was about lunch time when I went to the loo, looked in the mirror, and noticed!

**Favourite Song of all time:** You know, I have lots; I love all kinds of music, but my favourite of all time is American Pie.

**What's your most treasured possession:** My Visa Card!

**What role on stage would you give anything to have?** I don't know if I'd give anything, but I would like to play Alexandra Spofford, in the Witches of Eastwick.

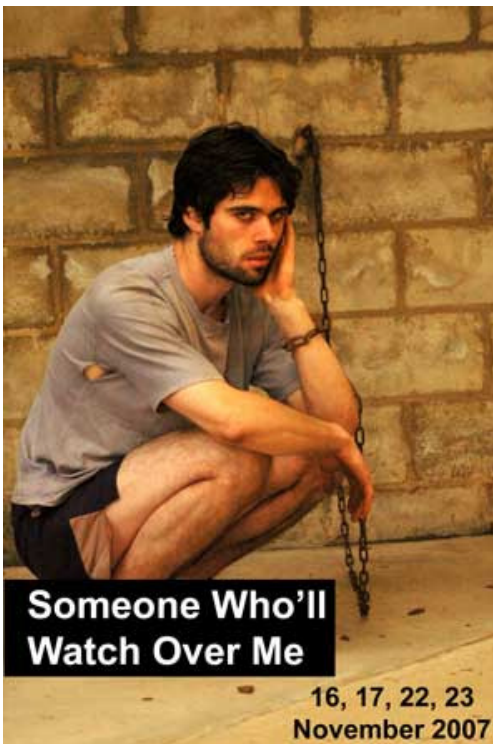
**Can you cook:** Yes I'm quite a good cook when I'm in the mood and have plenty of time to prepare.

**Highlight of your life so far:** Seeing how proud my Dad was of me after seeing my performance in the Wizard of Oz.

**What piece of advice would you give to anyone wanting to act on stage?** Go for it. Listen, look and learn. You need to have a thick skin.

**What is your worst habit?** It used to be smoking, but I've not had a smoke since January. I am usually late for everything – John hates it.

Next Production...



Someone Who'll  
Watch Over Me

16, 17, 22, 23  
November 2007

"...a play with emotional power..." - The Telegram

"...compulsive, riveting and absorbing theatre of the highest quality..." - The London Theatre Guide

"...an amalgam of comedy and drama that should not be missed..." - The Herald-Sun

Just some of what the critics have said over the years about various productions of "**Someone Who'll Watch Over Me**", a deeply moving and extremely funny play, currently in rehearsal here at Break a Leg Theatre Group.

Our production features Lawrie Fildes, Ernie Rijs and Andrew Hood, as three men kidnapped and held hostage together in a cell in Beirut. This powerful play tells the story of their individual struggles to stay sane and deal with the day to day trauma that they have been forced into.

Mandy is directing this one, and is more than just a little bit thankful that she has such an experienced and professional cast to work with.

Someone Who'll Watch Over Me open in November and will run for one night only at Yinnar, Drouin, Sale and Traralgon.